

HTLV-III VIRUS RELATED PEPTIDES, ANTIBODIES TO THE PEPTIDES, VACCINES, PASSIVE AND ACTIVE IMMUNIZATION AGAINST AIDS VIRUS AND DIAGNOSTIC

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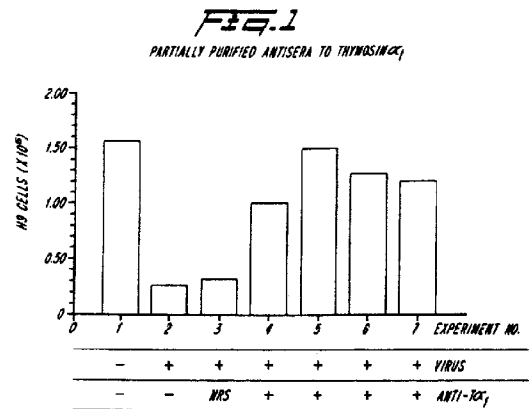
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[57] Abstract:

Vaccines effective in the inhibition of infection caused by the family of retroviruses, HTLV-III, Human T-cell Leukemia Virus, LAV, Lymphadenopathy-associated virus, ARV-2, AIDS-Related Virus, (AIDS and AIDS-Related Complex) have been developed from an antisera prepared against thymosin α_1 ($T\alpha_1$), a thymic hormone, as well as from antisera to synthetic peptide fragments of $T\alpha_1$ and antisera to synthetic peptide fragments inclusive of amino acid positions 92-109 of the p17 gag core protein of HTLV-III, LAV and ARV-2. In this 18 amino acid primary sequence there is a 44 to 50% homology between the gag protein and $T\alpha_1$. Immunoglobulin (IgG)-enriched preparations of the $T\alpha_1$ antisera have enhanced activity in blocking viral replication. A diagnostic test capable of directly detecting the presence of HTLV-III, LAV, ARV-2 and related retroviruses associated with AIDS and ARC is also described.

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[51] **Int'l Class:** C07K001416 C12P002100 C07K000708 G01N0033569 C07K001900 A61K003921 C12P002102 C12N001500 C07K000508 C12P002108 C07K001642 C07K001600 G01N0033577 C07K000104 A61K0039395 C07K0014005 C07K0014195 C12N001509 C07K001626 C07K001610 C07K001400 A61P003112 C12N001502 C07K0014155 A61P003118 A61K003900 C12R000191 C12R000119

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